



Park Carols

This is a community event for us all to enjoy! All you need to do is follow along and sing up loudly. As this is a pop up event you are responsible for yourself and anyone who you have brought with you.

Reading *John 1:1-5*

The Life-Light

1-2 The Word was first,
the Word present to God,
God present to the Word.

The Word was God,
in readiness for God from day one.

3-5 Everything was created through him;
nothing—not one thing!—
came into being without him.

What came into existence was Life,
and the Life was Light to live by.

The Life-Light blazed out of the darkness;
the darkness couldn't put it out.

O come, all ye faithful,

joyful and triumphant,

O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem.

Come and behold him,

born the king of angels!



O come let us adore him,
O come let us adore him,
O come let us adore him,
Christ the Lord.

God from God,
light from light,
lo, he abhors not the virgin's womb!
Very God, begotten, not created.

Sing, choirs of angels,
sing in exultation!
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above,
'Glory to God in the highest!'

Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
born for our salvation;
Jesus to thee be glory given!
Word of the Father now in flesh
appearing.

Reading *Luke 2:1-7*

The Birth of Jesus

¹⁻⁵ About that time Caesar Augustus ordered a census to be taken throughout the Empire. This was the first census



when Quirinius was governor of Syria. Everyone had to travel to his own ancestral hometown to be accounted for. So Joseph went from the Galilean town of Nazareth up to Bethlehem in Judah, David's town, for the census. As a descendant of David, he had to go there. He went with Mary, his fiancée, who was pregnant.

⁶⁻⁷ While they were there, the time came for her to give birth. She gave birth to a son, her firstborn. She wrapped him in a blanket and laid him in a manger, because there was no room in the hostel.

Away in a manger,

no crib for a bed,
the little Lord Jesus
laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky
looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus
asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing,
the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus



no crying he makes.
I love you, Lord Jesus!
Look down from the sky,
and stay by my side
until morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus;
I ask you to stay
close by me forever,
and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children
in your tender care,
and fit us for heaven,
to live with you there.

Joy to the world, the Lord has
come:

let earth receive her King.
Let every heart prepare him room
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and heaven and nature
sing!

Joy to the earth, the saviour reigns:
let songs be heard on high.



While fields and streams
and hills and plains
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy!

He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness,
the wonders of his love,
the wonders of his love,
the wonders, wonders of his Love!

Reading *Luke 2:8-18*

An Event for Everyone

8-12 There were shepherders camping in the neighbourhood. They had set night watches over their sheep. Suddenly, God's angel stood among them and God's glory blazed around them. They were terrified. The angel said, "Don't be afraid. I'm here to announce a great and joyful event that is meant for everybody, worldwide: A Saviour has just been born in David's town, a Saviour who is Messiah and Master. This



is what you're to look for: a baby wrapped in a blanket and lying in a manger."

¹³⁻¹⁴ At once the angel was joined by a huge angelic choir singing God's praises: Glory to God in the heavenly heights, Peace to all men and women on earth who please him.

¹⁵⁻¹⁸ As the angel choir withdrew into heaven, the shepherders talked it over. "Let's get over to Bethlehem as fast as we can and see for ourselves what God has revealed to us." They left, running, and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in the manger. Seeing was believing. They told everyone they met what the angels had said about this child. All who heard the shepherders were impressed.

O little town of Bethlehem,

how still we see you lie!

Above your deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by:

yet in your dark streets shining

is everlasting light;

the hopes and fears of all the years
are met in you tonight.



O morning stars, together
proclaim the holy birth,
and praises sing to God the King,
and peace to all the earth.
For Christ is born of Mary;
and, gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep
their watch of wondering love.

How silently, how silently
the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts
the blessings of his heaven:
no ear may hear his coming,
but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him - still
the dear Christ enters in.

O holy child of Bethlehem,
descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin and enter in,
be born in us today!
We hear the Christmas angels
the great glad tidings tell -
O come to us, abide with us,
our Lord Emmanuel.



Silent night, holy night,
All is calm, all is bright,
Round the virgin and her child:
Holy infant, so gentle and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night,
Shepherds quake at the sight,
Glory streams from heaven afar:
Heavenly hosts sing 'Alleluia,
Christ the Saviour is born,
Christ the Saviour is born'.

Silent night, holy night,
Son of God, love's pure light:
Radiant beams your holy face
With the dawn of saving grace,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

Reading *Isaiah 40:1-5*

Prepare for God's Arrival

1-2 "Comfort, oh comfort my people,"
says your God.



“Speak softly and tenderly to Jerusalem,
but also make it very clear
That she has served her sentence,
that her sin is taken care of—forgiven!
She’s been punished enough and more
than enough,
and now it’s over and done with.”

³⁻⁵ Thunder in the desert!

“Prepare for God’s arrival!
Make the road straight and smooth,
a highway fit for our God.
Fill in the valleys,
level off the hills,
Smooth out the ruts,
clear out the rocks.
Then God’s bright glory will shine
and everyone will see it.
Yes. Just as God has said.”

Talk

‘Hark!’ the herald angels sing

‘Glory to the new-born King:
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!’
Joyful all you nations rise,



join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic host proclaim,
'Christ is born in Bethlehem':
'Hark!' the herald angels sing,
'Glory to the new-born King!'

Christ, by highest heaven adored,
Christ the everlasting Lord:
late in time behold him come,
offspring of a virgin's womb;
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,
Hail the incarnate Deity!
Pleased as man with us to dwell,
Jesus our 'Emmanuel!'
'Hark!' the herald angels sing,
'Glory to the new-born King!'

Hail the heaven-born prince of peace,
hail the Sun of righteousness;
light and life to all he brings,
risen with healing in his wings:
mild, he lays his glory by,
born that we no more may die;
born to raise us from the earth,
born to give us second birth:
'Hark!' the herald angels sing,
'glory to the newborn King.'



Ding-dong! Merrily on high

in heaven the bells are ringing.

Ding-dong! Verily the sky
is riven with angels singing:
Gloria, hosanna in excelsis!

E'en so, here below, below,
let steeple bells be swungen;
and i-o, i-o, i-o,
by priest and people sungen!
Gloria, hosanna in excelsis!

Pray you, dutifully prime
your matin chime, you ringers;
may you beautifully rhyme
your evetime song, you singers:
Gloria, hosanna in excelsis!

Give a gift to Tearfund

This year our collection is for *Tearfund*, an international relief and development agency, helping the most vulnerable around the world this Christmas.

Tearfund (Charity #265464) tearfund.org



Everyone's Welcome at B&A this Christmas

join us at B&A St Andrew's Park

Thursday 20

Park Carols, 8pm

Sunday 23

Community Carols, 7pm*

**2pm for musicians, 4pm for singers*

Christmas Eve

Fancy Dress Nativity
2:30pm & 4pm

Communion, 11pm

Christmas Day

Communion, 9am

Family Celebration, 10:30am

babristol.org/christmas

THE LIFE-LIGHT
BLAZED OUT
OF THE DARKNESS;
THE DARKNESS
COULDN'T PUT IT
OUT.

JOHN 1:14

